Average cost of production of power

364. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTI LAL VORA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per kilowatt/hour cost of production of power by various distribution companies in India;

(b) whether the power distribution companies in India are charging Rs. 5 per unit when the cost of producing power is more tha Rs. 3 per unit (Kilowatt/hour);

(c) whether Government is aware that most of the power distribution companies are charging fuel adjustment charge, surcharge, cess and other taxes due to which the consumers have to pay very heavy charges;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reduce the power charges in various States including NCT, particularly in view of difference between cost of production and price charged for power; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) According to the information available with Central Electricity Authority, the average cost of power supply by the utilities for the year 2002-03 was estimated to be Rs. 3.63 per Kwh and average tariff for sale of electricity was Rs. 2.71 per Kwh.

(c) to (e) Consumer tariffs are required to be decided by State Regulatory Commissions in accordance with provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 after hearing the views of all the stake-holders including generating companies/utilities and consumers in a transparent manner.

Merger of PFC and PGC

365. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to merge the Power Finance Corporation and Power Grid Corporation to reduce costs of administration;

(b) if so, the details of this merger proposal;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to reduce the high cost of management and administration at these two bodies;

(d) whether any study has been conducted to reduce the costs of administration in the Power Grid Corporation and the PFC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) There is no proposal to merge Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The cost of management and administration of PFC and PGCIL are reasonable.

(d) The need for such a study has not been felt.

(e) Does not arise.

Deficit and surplus status in generation of power

366. SHRI MOTILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States falling under 'deficit' and 'surplus' status in respect of generation of power;

(b) the details of newly undertaken power projects in the 'deficit' States;

(c) how many of them are in the North-East with the names of the projects; and

(d) by when these are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The country, as a whole, experienced an energy deficit of 5.7% during the period April-June, 2004. The States having higher energy deficit than the national average level are Uttar Pradesh (14.5%), Gujarat (11.4%), Madhya Pradesh (9.3%), Maharashtra (9.0%), Karnataka (10.5%), Assam (5.9%), Meghalaya (15.4%), Mizoram (9.3%) and Tripura (10.1%).

(b) Details of power projects sanctioned for being set up in deficit States are given at in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(c) and (d) The following power projects are to be set up in the North Eastern Region.